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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, at line 3, please insert the following heading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

On page 7, beginning at line 8, please amend the present text as follows:

~~Several preferred embodiments of the present invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying illustrative drawings in which:~~

-- SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An apparatus for supporting elongate sticks according to one embodiment of the present invention comprises a main body member having a base defining a base footprint of a first defined footprint area wherein the main body member supports and restrains a plurality of at least three arms extending therefrom in a direction away from the base with each arm inclined relative to a vertical axis extending through the main body member.

One object of the present invention is to provide an improved apparatus for supporting elongate sticks.

Related objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following description.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS --